IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

APPELLATE SIDE

WRIT PETITION NO. 7695 OF 2006

VIJAY KANTICHANDRA PAL .. PETITIONER

Versus

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA & ANR. .. RESPONDENTS

Ms. Helen Mandlik with Mr. R. K. Mendadkar for petitioner

Mr. R.D. Rane, AGP

CORAM:-SMT. RANJANA DESAI
V. M. KANADE, JJ.

DATED:-27/11/2006

P.C.

. The grievance of the petitioner is that application form of the petitioner for verification of caste certificate is not being accepted by respondent 2 - Divisional Caste Certificate Scrutiny Committee. The case of respondent 2 appears to be that the application is submitted after the expiry of last date prescribed by the Government for acceptance of the application form for verification.

2. Ms. Mandlik, learned advocate for the

petitioner contended that no time as such is prescribed under the Maharashtra Act No. XXIII of 2001 for submission of the application. She pointed out that under Section 6(2), the application has to be submitted well in time. The learned advocate contended that hence, approach of respondent 2 is improper and this court should in the interest of justice direct respondent 2 to accept the application form.

3. We have also heard the learned Addl. Government Pleader for the State. We find substance in the submission made by the learned advocate for the petitioner. In our opinion, the following order will meet the ends of justice.

4. Respondent 2 - Divisional Caste Certificate Scrutiny Committee is directed to accept the application form of the petitioner dated 11/11/06 for verification of caste certificate dated 6th June, 2006 issued by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Panvel, Raigad District and to verify the same in accordance with law.

5. Writ petition is disposed of in the aforestated terms.

(SMT. RANJANA DESAI, J.)

(V. M. KANADE, J.)